

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
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Charles Eric Hunter et al.) Group Art Unit: 2167
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Serial No.: 09/493,854) Examiner: O'Connor, G.
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Filed: January 28, 2000)
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For: Music Distribution Systems)
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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated January 15, 2002, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, Claim 1 drawn to an automated electrical financial or business practice or management systems for bill preparation; Group II, Claim 2 drawn to a method of satellite transmission for direct broadcast to homes using digital transmissions; Group III, Claims 3-27 drawn to an automated electrical financial or business practice or management system for accounting; Group IV, Claims 28-41 drawn to a method of transmission of signals for recording; and Group V, Claims 42-51 drawn to a electronic broadcast information distribution system. Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group V, claims 42-51 drawn to an electronic broadcast information distribution system.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper in this case for at least the following reasons. In order for a Restriction Requirement to be proper, the claims must recite independent or distinct inventions, and must present a serious burden on the